

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
IO-13 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-08 ACDA-12 /095 W
-----010800 170634Z /17

R 161838Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6828
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY BERN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 04844

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, GW, TU
SUBJECT: ECEVIT-BRANDT MEETING

1. AN SPD SOURCE HAS TOLD US THAT THE MEETING LAST WEEK IN VEVEY BETWEEN TURKISH PREMIER ECEVIT AND SPD CHAIRMAN BRANDT WAS A REUNION BETWEEN TWO CLOSE FRIENDS WHOSE SCHEDULES COINCIDENTALLY MESHED. (ECEVIT WAS IN MONTREUX FOR HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH CARAMANLIS AND BRANDT WAS ATTENDING A MEETING IN VEVEY OF HIS COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT QUESTIONS.) HE SAID THE MEETING TOOK PLACE BEFORE ECEVIT'S DISCUSSIONS WITH CARAMANLIS AND THAT LITTLE OF SUBSTANCE WAS COVERED. HE DENIED THAT THE TURKISH LEADER HAD ASKED BRANDT TO PLAY A MORE ACTIVE ROLE IN CYPRUS. HE SAID BRANDT HAD ACCEPTED AN INVITATION TO VISIT TURKEY, BUT THAT NO DATE HAD BEEN SET.

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2. FOREIGN OFFICE OFFICIALS, WHILE IN THE DARK ABOUT THE MEETING, SHARE OUR SUSPICION THAT THERE WAS MORE TO IT THAN THAT. THEY SPECULATE THAT ECEVIT OUTLINED HIS INTERNAL DIFFICULTIES, PARTICULARLY ON THE ECONOMIC SIDE, AND ASKED BRANDT TO PUT PRESSURE ON THE IMF TO MODERATE ITS STANCE TOWARD TURKEY. THESE OFFICIALS ALSO ASSUME CYPRUS WAS DISCUSSED BUT THEY TEND TO AGREE

WITH OUR PARTY SOURCE THAT BRANDT WAS PROBABLY NOT
ASKED TO MEDIATE.

3. COMMENT: AS IS WELL KNOWN, ECEVIT IS A PERSONAL
FRIEND OF BRANDT AND HAS CLOSE RELATIONS WITH OTHERS IN
THE SPD LEADERSHIP AS WELL. ANOTHER SPD OFFICIAL HAS
TOLD US THAT THE PARTY IS IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH
ECEVIT AND IT "HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH" HIS POST
ELECTION STATEMENT CALLING FOR A SPEEDY SOLUTION TO
THE CYPRUS PROBLEM.
MEEHAN

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